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15 Claims

1. A catheter for insertion into the human body and which includes one or more optionally scanning ultrasonic transducers as well as a surgical instrument to be operated from the outside, **wherein** the catheter includes one or more parts (2, 3) of a substantially completely circular or partially circular cross section, where a rod (4) is inserted between said parts and at the end is provided with an ultrasonic transducer (7), said completely or partially circular parts (2, 3) being surrounded by an outer tube (5) passed over the completely or partially circular parts, and where the surface of at least one of the completely or partially circular parts (2) is provided with a longitudinal groove (6) for the insertion of the surgical instrument.

2. A catheter according to claim 1, **wherein** the surgical instrument is formed by a flexible needle (12) for the introduction of a substance or for the extraction of tissue samples.

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3. A catheter according to claim 1, **wherein** a longitudinal groove (6) in the surface of one of the completely or partially circular parts (2) is longer than the surrounding outer tube (5).
- 5 4. A catheter according to claim 2, **wherein** the longitudinal groove (6) in the surface of one of the completely or partially circular parts (2) is shaped such that the flexible needle (12) extends immediately behind the outer tube (5).
- 10 5. A catheter according to claim 1, **wherein** the groove (6) in the surface of one of the completely or partially circular parts (2) ends in the surface of the circular part (2) immediately behind the outer tube (5).
- 15 6. A catheter according to claim 1, **wherein** the partially circular parts (2, 3) are shaped such along the abutting surfaces that they can be locked relative to one another.
7. A catheter according to claim 1, **wherein** the rod (4) with the ultrasonic transducer (7) can be rotated relative to the completely or partially circular part(s) (2, 3).
- 20 8. A catheter according to claim 1 and used in connection with a sigmoidoscope.